

# Carleton Heights Curling Club

Return to Play Guidelines

## 2021-22



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## Updates in this Version

- Sweeping restrictions lifted (2 sweepers allowed, sweeping behind the tee line permitted). Curling Canada sweeping rules apply.
- Teams may keep score in any manner desired, including members from both teams using the scoring tiles.
- Socializing: teams may sit up to 8 people at a table. Distancing rules still apply.
- When there is no game before a draw, curlers may stage in the lounge.
- Changed Contact Tracing section to read “Each time you arrive at the club you must provide your name and contact information for tracing purposes.” Had previously indicated collection of Name, Address and Telephone Number.
- Youth curlers must wear masks inside the club at all times. Adult curlers have the option to remove mask while in the ice shed, and while eating/drinking.
- Teams may agree in advance to limit the length of games to 6 ends; however, the buzzer remains in effect.

## Context

The COVID-19 pandemic which emerged in March 2020 continues to pose a significant risk to the health of people everywhere. While vaccination rates among Canadians are promising, much remains unknown about the long-term implications the pandemic will have on Canadian society.

The health and safety of our staff, contractors and curlers is our top priority and is the primary driver of all decisions taken by the club.

The pandemic has greatly impacted the way in which our club will operate in the foreseeable future. Governments and health authorities at all levels have imposed restrictions on the way in which non-essential activities such as curling, are conducted. It is necessary that the club adhere to all such restrictions.

Ontario has [paused the exit from the Roadmap to Reopen](#), meaning that Ontario remains in Step 3. This means that indoor recreation facilities can open with capacity limits and other restrictions.

Starting September 22, 2021, Ontario will require proof of COVID-19 vaccination to access certain businesses and settings, including our curling club.

## Season Calendar

Registration	August 23, 2021 – October 7, 2021
Beginning of League Play	October 12, 2021
Holiday closure	December 20, 2021 - January 2, 2022
End of league play	April 11, 2022
Club closure	April 14, 2022

## General Rules

The following rules must be followed at all times:

- Only curlers, staff and contractors are allowed to enter the building. Spectators are not allowed.  
**Exception:** Youth curlers are allowed one adult spectator per Youth curler. These spectators must adhere to all other rules while inside the club.
- Physical distancing (2 m) must be maintained at all times in the club.
- Youth curlers must wear masks at all times inside the club.
- For adult curlers, masks must be worn at all times in the club except:
  - In the ice-shed (playing area).
  - While actively eating or drinking.
- Spares must be sourced from club or rental league members.
- There will be no sharing of equipment, or club equipment available for use. Each curler must supply their own equipment.

## Vaccination Policy

As of September 22, 2021, all persons entering the club will be required to show proof of full vaccination against COVID-19.

The club will be organizing drop-in dates before the season starts for people to show proof of vaccination. Further details will be announced soon.

### **Exceptions to this policy include:**

- People under 12 years of age
- People under 18 years of age entering solely for the purpose of actively participating in an organized sport.
- People with a valid document from a physician or nurse practitioner saying they have a medical exemption from full vaccination.

Note: Parents of youth curlers will need to show proof of vaccination upon entry.

See the full list of exemptions on the Government of Ontario website:

[Proof of COVID-19 vaccination | COVID-19 \(coronavirus\) in Ontario](#)

## Contact Tracing

Each time you arrive at the club you must provide your name and contact information for tracing purposes.

The club will be using a contact tracing application and tablet provided by CurlON for this purpose. In the event of technical difficulties an alternative method for gathering this information will be in place.

## Arrival at and entry into the club

### General

- Curlers should arrive no earlier than 15 minutes before the start of the draw.
- Masks must be worn in the club before your game.
- Curlers should come dressed to play.
- Bring your own water bottles.
- Follow the directional arrows and signs that will guide traffic through the club.

### Upon entering the club

- Sanitize your hands with the provided sanitizer
- Outdoor footwear must be removed. They may be placed on the racks near the main door or taken with you in a bag (be sure to bring your own bag).
- Sign in using the contact tracing application or other means provided
- Proceed down the stairway on the left side of the lounge to the change rooms in the basement.
- Once in the basement, you may not come back upstairs until your draw is ready to begin and you are called onto the ice.

## Pre-Game (“Staging”)

When there is no game before your draw, teams may stage in the lounge. Tables will be labelled by sheet. Teams must stage at their designated table.

When there is a game before your draw, staging will be in the men’s and women’s change rooms.

- Sheets 1 and 2 will stage in the men’s change room
- Sheets 3 and 4 will stage in the women’s change room.

Seats will be marked to show where to sit before your game.

Determination of last rock should be done prior to the start of the game.

## Lockers & Washrooms

The basement washrooms will be open. The club will be installing barriers at the doors of the women’s washroom to ensure privacy.

Curlers may access their lockers only for the purpose of retrieving their curling items (shoes, brooms, etc.). Once items have been retrieved the curler must return immediately to their designated staging area.

## Personal Items

Personal items may be left in the locker rooms, lockers, or the lounge (if staging in the lounge) if desired. Valuables should not be left unattended.

If you know you will need to leave the club early or immediately following your game, bring all personal items with you onto the ice. The locker rooms will be off-limits for a period following each draw while staging of the next draw takes place.

## On-Ice and Game Protocols

### General

- CHCC on-ice protocols have been defined for clarity, consistency, and curler safety
- CHCC on-ice protocols are aligned with Public Health measures and Curling Canada guidelines, and have been tailored to CHCC specific conditions
- CHCC on-ice protocols are subject to change based on updates to these measures, guidelines, and conditions

### Masks

- Wearing a mask is optional within the ice shed. Curlers are strongly encouraged to wear masks while playing.
- Tips for preventing foggy glasses while wearing a mask:
  - Wash lenses with soapy water
  - Apply an anti-fog spray or wipe to lenses
  - Secure the top of the mask with skin-safe tape

## Before the Game

- Non-essential items have been removed from the ice shed (e.g., water cooler, shoe brush, tables, club brooms & stabilizers)
- The Ice Technician will prepare the sheets prior to a draw
- Facial tissues, hand sanitizer and disinfectant wipes will be available at both ends of the ice
- Curlers should fill and bring their own water bottles
- Prior to a draw, opposing teams will be staged in designated areas within the club
- Prior to a draw, while in their designated staging areas, opposing teams should determine hammer and rock colour assignment
- Prior to a draw, a designated player from each team will use disinfectant wipes to sanitize rock handles, scoring tiles and measuring devices associated with their sheet

## Ice Shed Entry

- Curlers may only enter the ice shed as directed by the assigned Draw Coordinator.
- Curlers must maintain safe physical distancing while entering the ice shed
- Curlers should clean their shoes on the sticky white pad by the entrance to the ice shed
- To minimize traffic congestion, games on adjacent sheets will commence at opposite ends:
  - Sheets 1 and 3: Near end will be the “home” end
  - Sheets 2 and 4: Far end will be the “home” end
- Personal items (e.g., purse, sports bag) should be placed along the boards adjacent to the sheet.

## Team Greetings

- Team greetings should be made by tapping broom handles or friendly waving.

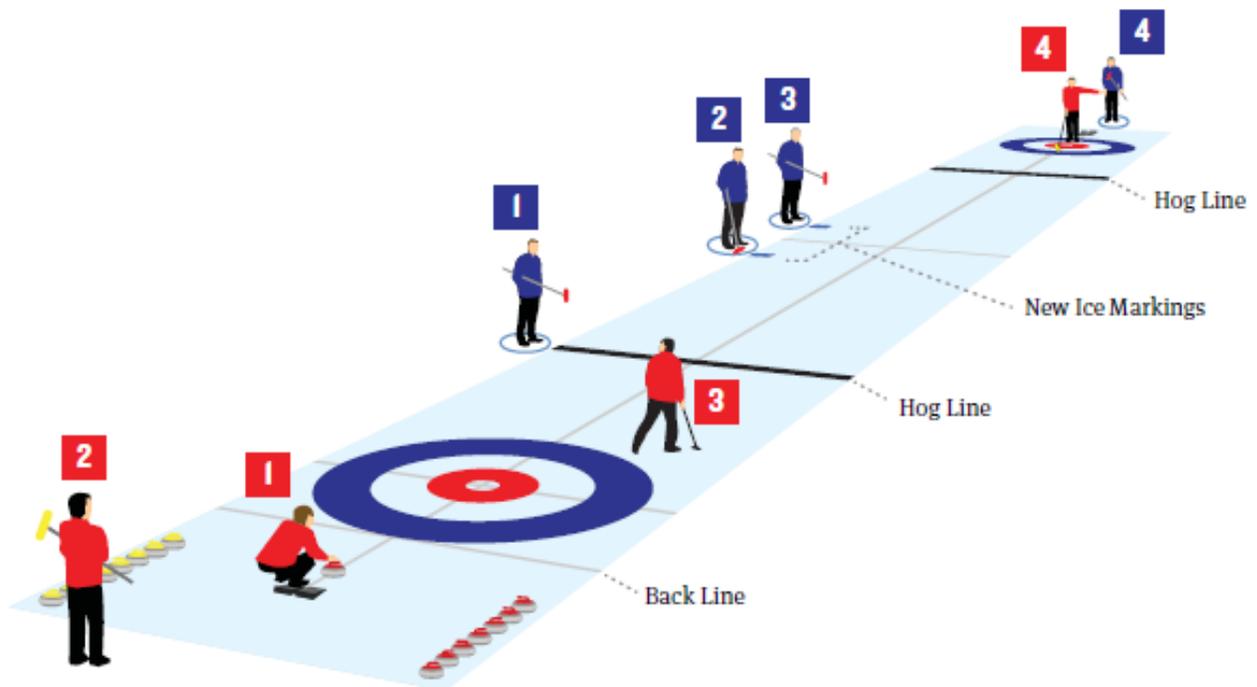
## Curler Positioning

Safe physical distancing must be maintained.

- Curlers should keep to the side of the sheet furthest from the adjacent sheet

## Ready to Deliver

- **Delivering Team:**
  1. The curler who is delivering should be in the hack
  2. The non-sweeping curler should be on the backboards
  3. The sweeping curler should be at the T-Line
  4. The curler in charge of the house (i.e., skip or vice) should be in the house
- **Non-Delivering Team:**
  1. The curler who will deliver the next rock should be at the Hog Line
  2. The first sweeper should be at one of designated halfway markings
  3. The second sweeper should be at the other designated halfway marking
  4. The curler in charge of the house (i.e., skip or vice) should be on the backboards, on the side opposite the adjacent sheet, until all rocks have come to rest



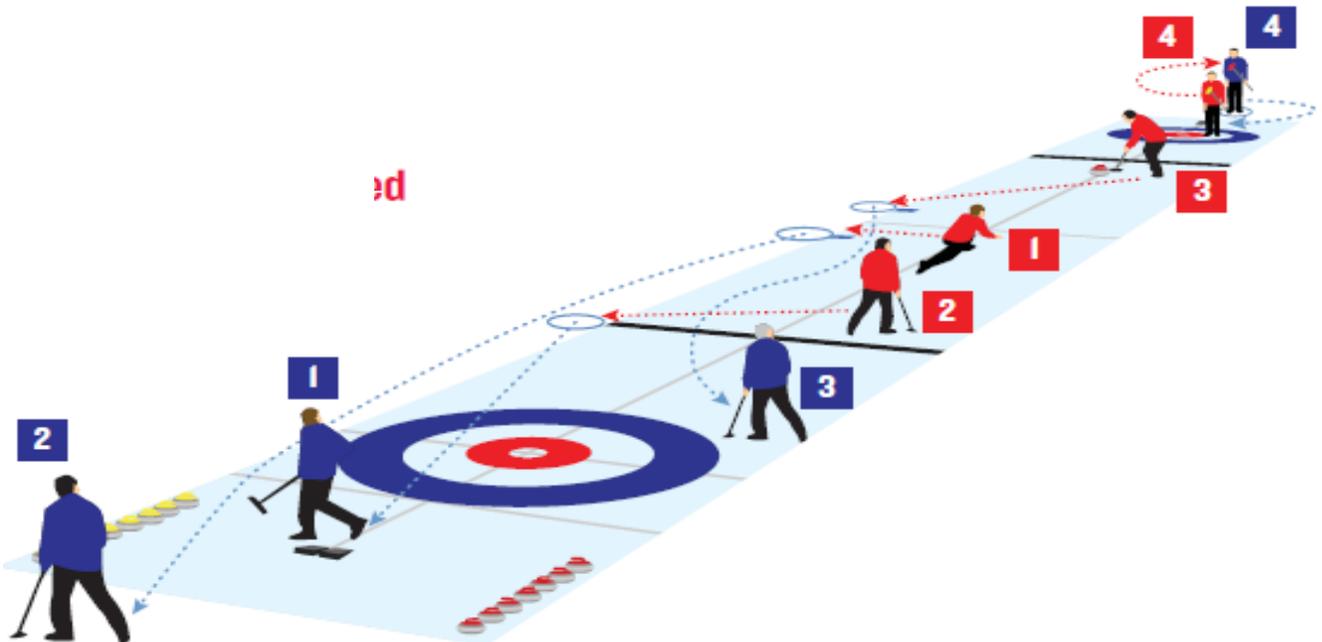
## Rock is delivered

- **Delivering Team:**

1. The curler that delivered the rock should move down the centre line of the ice and:
  - Wait at a halfway marking if their next job is to watch or sweep, or
  - Move back to the Hog Line if their next job is to deliver a rock
2. The non-sweeper should:
  - Move to the Hog Line if their next job is to deliver a rock, or
  - Move to a halfway marking if their next job is to watch or sweep
3. The sweeper should continue sweeping, as appropriate, as far as the T-Line and then:
  - Move to the Hog Line if their next job is to deliver a rock, or
  - Move to a halfway marking if their next job is to watch or sweep
4. The curler in charge of the house (ie. skip or vice) should remain in the house until the delivered rock has come to rest and then move to the backboards on the side opposite the adjacent sheet

- **Non-Delivering Team:**

1. The next curler to deliver should select a rock and move to the hack
2. The next non-sweeping curler should move to the backboards
3. The next sweeper should move to the Hog Line
4. The next curler in charge of the house (i.e., skip or vice) should move to the house once the delivered rock has come to rest



## Sweeping

Sweeping rules will follow the regular Curling Canada sweeping rules, including:

- Two sweepers may sweep a given delivered rock
- Curlers in charge of the house may sweep
- Curlers may sweep opposition rocks behind the tee line
- Curlers may sweep any rock that is set in motion by a delivered rock

## Rock Reset at the Conclusion of an End

- At the conclusion of an end, only the second and the vice from the team that scored in that end will move both teams' rocks to their starting positions. If the end was blanked, the team with hammer shall be responsible for returning the rocks to their starting positions.

## Scoring

- Teams may keep score in any manner desired, including using the existing scoreboards and score tiles.
- Scoring tiles should be left up at the end of the game to enable disinfection for the next draw.

## Measurement Devices

- Measurements will be performed using normal curling measurement devices
- Curlers are encouraged to sanitize their hands after using a curling measurement device

## Game Duration

- Draw times must be strictly followed to ensure the safety of our curlers and staff, and the smooth operation of the club.
- A buzzer will sound to signal the end of each draw. **All games are over immediately when the buzzer has sounded.** If the last rock of the end has not crossed the delivery end Hog Line at the sound of the buzzer, then that end will not count.
- A minimum of one hour and thirty-five minutes of playing time will be provided for each draw. Where scheduling allows the club will make efforts to provide as much playing time as possible.
- Teams may mutually agree at the start to limit their game to 6 ends; however, the buzzer is still in effect.

## Team Congratulations

- Team congratulations can be fulfilled by tapping broom handles

## Ice Shed Exit

At the end of the game, the Draw Coordinator will direct the exit of curlers from the ice shed and into the lounge.

**Important:** Curlers cannot go into the basement immediately following their game, as that area will be used by curlers staging for the following draw.

Curlers may leave the ice shed during or at the conclusion of a game while ensuring:

- No distraction to other games still in progress
- Maintenance of safe physical distancing

## Recording of Game Results

- Physical score sheets will not be maintained within the club
- The winning skip or team designate will email the game results to the league coordinator within 24 hours of a game's completion

## Post-Game and Socializing

There will be room for up to 32 people to socialize in the lounge area at a time. Tables and chairs will be spaced according to physical distancing requirements. Up to 8 people may sit at a table.

Special markings will indicate where to line up for the bar.

To ensure adequate time for cleaning and preparation, time in the lounge will be limited when there is another draw on the ice. An announcement will be made by the bar staff to let curlers know when they must leave the lounge. **All curlers must immediately leave the lounge at the time designated for their draw.** There will be no exceptions to this rule.